

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office Actions dated October 3, 2003 and February 10, 2004 and further to Applicants' Response of November 3, 2003, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Groups I and II, which include claims 1-24, for further examination on the merits in the present application.

In reply to the 37 CFR §1.105 Requirements for Information (page 2 of the Office Action), Applicants submit that the information required to be submitted is unknown and/or not readily available, in part because the inventors, Dean C. Marchand and Erin C. Jackman, are no longer under the employ of the assignee, Worldcom, Inc. (dba MCI), and Applicants' representative did not participate in the preparation of the patent application. This statement constitutes a complete reply pursuant to 37 CFR §1.105(b).

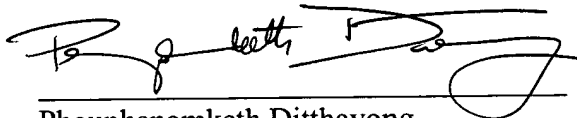
Further, it is noted that Applicants have previously submitted an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issue may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG & CARLSON, P.C.

4/9/04
Date



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